

Health Advisory Issued by Montana Department of Environmental Quality

June 9, 2008

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY
Water Supply Serving
Great Beginnings Montessori School
MT0004566
Bozeman, MT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Tests Show Coliform Bacteria in Great Beginnings Montessori School Water

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

Water samples taken on **June 9, 2008** confirmed the presence of total coliform bacteria in the water supply serving Great Beginnings Montessori School.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been you would have been notified immediately. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*

Usually, Coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern,

such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing.** If we had, we would have notified you immediately. However, we are still finding Coliforms in the drinking water.

What is being done?

_____ [Describe corrective action.]

We are still detecting coliform bacteria. We will inform you when our sampling shows that no bacteria are present. We anticipate resolving the problem within _____ [estimated time frame].

For more information, please contact AMY VERZUH at _____
[phone number] or 5860 SPRINGHILL LANE, BOZEMAN, MT 59715

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by GREAT BEGINNINGS MONTESSORI SCHOOL. State Water System ID#: MT0004566.
Date distributed: _____.